

Coastal Observation Technology System Project Summary – 2004

Project Name/Title: The Gulf of Maine Ocean Observing System (GoMOOS): A Regional Pilot of the Integrated Ocean Observing System

Date Project Initiated: Will begin receiving NOAA funding in July 2004

Recipient Institution: Gulf of Maine Ocean Observing System

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Brief Project Summary: This project will sustain and enhance the four elements of the Gulf of Maine Ocean Observing System that was initiated in 2000: 1) the organizational structure designed to meet the needs of multiple users, 2) an observing system that operates around the clock with real-time data delivery, 3) a data management system that distributes data on a free and open basis, and 4) an analysis and product subsystem that creates information in a variety of forms, from the simple intuitive display to sophisticated model products. In the coming year, GoMOOS will 1) enhance user involvement by targeting fisheries managers, coastal zone managers, the Coast Guard, and researchers, 2) enhance forecasting and warning capabilities, and 3) launch a nearshore buoy program aimed at meeting the needs of coastal and water quality managers. GoMOOS will accomplish this by sustaining the existing observing and data management systems, building partnerships for the exchange of data in the region and with federal agencies, and the continuing the development of data products to meet user needs. GoMOOS will seek the advice of the Science Advisory Panel for ways in which the system can use technology to better meet the needs of users.

Accomplishments to Date:

- Sustained operations of the system.
- Meeting of Science Advisory Panel for October 2004.
- Meeting of optical experts in the region to review GoMOOS optical program set for August 2004.

Current Year Objectives:

- Continue to provide reliable measurements on the Gulf of Maine.
- Initiate the nearshore buoy program for meeting needs of coastal managers.
- Continue to ensure data interoperability with federal and regional partners through the Gulf of Maine Ocean Data Partnership.

- Develop data products that assist fishermen and fishery managers to integrate different data sets to help them solve problems and understand their fishery.
- Form partnership with regional entities to support educational and outreach activities.

Partners:

- University of Maine
- Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences
- Woods Holes Oceanographic Institution
- Bedford Institute for Oceanography
- University of New Hampshire